

USA GYMNASTICS

November/December 1990
Volume 28, No. 6

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GOODWILL
GAMES



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Color Photo: USGF © 1990 Dave Black

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ASK MARYLOU

DEAR MARY LOU,

When you were still in gymnastics, how long did you condition?

Cassie Althaus
Centerville, Washington

Dear Cassie,

When I was still in competitive gymnastics we (at Karolyi's) conditioned a lot! We conditioned after every practice. And, when we worked out twice a day, we would condition after each practice. Sit-ups, V-ups, chin-ups, straight jumps, push-ups, calf raises, press handstands—you name it and we did it. Conditioning is a very important part of your workout. It makes you stronger and stronger.

DEAR MARY LOU,

Did you ever get really frustrated during practice? What did you do when you got really frustrated and aggravated?

Elizabeth Hansen
Lenexa, Kansas

Dear Elizabeth,

Yes, I got very frustrated during practice. Every gymnast, at one time or another, gets frustrated. When I would get upset and aggravated, I would talk to myself and calm myself down. I'd say, "Mary Lou, just calm down and think about what you're doing. You can do this. Really concentrate." And believe me, this worked for me. Try it!

DEAR MARY LOU,

When you were 11-years-old, where did you take gymnastics? For how many hours?

Jackie LaChapelle
Canton, Massachusetts

Dear Jackie,

When I was 11-years-old I took gymnastics at Aerial-Pole Gymnastics Center in Fairmont, West Virginia. My coach, at that time, was Gary Rebsloka. My workout schedule was Monday through Friday from 6:00-8:00pm.

DEAR MARY LOU,

When you were competing what did you eat?

Sara Jojola
Los Osos, California

Dear Sara,

When I was competing I ate healthy and very lean foods. Chicken and fish were my main source of protein and baked potatoes and all kinds of pasta were my carbohydrates (and some of my favorite things to eat). Carbohydrates are what gave me the energy to do just one more vault. To find out what diet is best for you talk with your parents and coach.

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CHALLENGES IN THE '90'S

USGF NATIONAL CONGRESS

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

By Kim Clayton

Over 1,600 enthusiastic USGF members gathered to the "Big Easy," New Orleans, September 12-16, to participate in the annual Congress of the USGF.



Congress Flea Market

"Challenges in the '90's" was chosen as the theme of this year's Congress. More first-day sessions and an increased attention on the "grass-roots" or developmental level of gymnastics provided those in attendance with much information and direction to take back to their programs.

Highlights of the five-day event included a monumental display of tumbling at its best demonstrated by World Champion Steve Elliott and National Champion John Beck. Jeff Metzger's Pre-Congress Business

Seminar again received rave reviews from the club owner participants. Dr. Phillip Elko received many positive comments at this, his first Congress, as a presenter in the area

of sports psychology. The various pre-school/developmental clinics provided interesting and informative sessions to continually pack meeting rooms.

The USGF merchandise department again offered the popular

"Flea Market" sale for attendees. Those able to squeeze their way through the clothes purchased merchandise of clothing, posters and other promotional materials at substantial savings.

Saturday's sessions ended with a "newer and shorter version" of the final luncheon with awards given to deserving athletes, coaches and volunteers of the USGF. For the first time ever, a father-son team won the coveted coach and athlete of the year awards. The 1990 award recipients were:

AWARDS

Hall of Fame Award
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Men's Coach of the Year
Fred Roethlisberger

Women's Coach of the Year
Bela Karolyi

Men's Athlete of the Year
John Roethlisberger

Women's Athlete of the Year
Kim Zmeskal

Rhythmic Athlete of the Year
Tracey Lepore



HYATT
REGENCY

Mary Lou Retton

Mary Lou Retton provided the final "challenge" to Congress attendees—to stand behind and support the direction of the USGF and its training programs. The USOC and USGF now provide the funding necessary for our athletes to train on a world-class level that the European countries have enjoyed for over a decade.

Congress attendees left with excitement and anticipation as the 1991 Congress will be held in Indianapolis, Ind., in conjunction with the 1991 World Gymnastics Championships. Those planning to attend will be afforded the opportunity to participate and witness gymnastics not only in the U.S. but also world-class performances from gymnasts attempting to qualify for the 1992 Olympic Games.

GYMNASTICS LOSES A HERO

It was a sad day for the sport of gymnastics when 1932 Olympian Dallas Bricker passed away. Dallas exemplified everything that it means to be an Olympian. He was a pure sportsman and a true gentleman. He cherished sport and all that it represents. He was a competitor and carried that same spirit and energy to his life and friendships. He was a man that when you met him for the first time, you felt the excitement of his accomplishments and his passion for life.



1932 Olympian Dallas Bricker

Dallas won a gold medal on high bar in the 1932 Olympic Games. He and his teammate George Gufack, who won a gold medal on rings at the 1932 Olympics, were the last Olympic gold medalists the sport of gymnastics had until the 1984 Olympics.

Dallas will be remembered always. His memory will be eternal, as the flame he so proudly and fervently stood for, in sport and in life. We will miss him, but not forget him!

MARIA BAKOS IMMEASURABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

Maria Bakos, a pioneer of rhythmic gymnastics in both Hungary and the U.S., recently passed away. Her contributions to the sports development in the U.S. was immeasurable and her list of accomplishments are enormous.

She was the Hungarian coach for the first Rhythmic Gymnastics World Championships in 1963 and arrived in the U.S. in 1969. Maria held camps and clinics throughout the U.S. and for the national gymnastics team of Canada, Vancouver, B.C. In 1972 she was an advisor, dance coach and choreographer for the U.S. Olympic Artistic Gymnastics Team for the Munich Games. In addition, she was the choreographer of the U.S. Olympic compulsory floor exercise for the 1972 Olympic Games.

In 1979, Maria choreographed for the very first U.S. National Group routine in Rhythmic Gymnastics for the World Championships held in London, England. In 1980 she went on to choreo-



Maria Bakos

graph the national floor exercise compulsory routines for Artistic Gymnastics, which were used from 1980-1984.

Maria was the choreographer for several Rhythmic Gymnastics compulsory routines for three consecutive terms—1980-84, 1984-88 and 1988-92.

Maria loved life her family and her sport. She had a marvelous sense of humor and always made work fun. She leaves a legacy of coaches and gymnasts. The gymnastics community will certainly miss Maria!

OOPS!

In the July/August '90 issue, Denise Firme's gym club was listed incorrectly. Her gym is Charter Oak Gymnastics located in Covina, Calif. Sorry for the mix-up!

MOGUILNI RETIRES

Sweet Union's Valentin Moguilni announced that the Goodwill Games competition will be his last as he is retiring from an illustrious career which culminated in his winning the team and pommel horse gold medals in his farewell competition.



Valentin Moguilni

Moguilni, 25, has been on the Soviet National Team since 1984 and has accumulated a number of all-around accomplishments including silver medalist at the 1989 World Championships, gold medalist at the recent 1990 European Championships, gold medalist at the 1989 Soviet Nationals and gold medalist at the DTB Pokal competition. In addition, Moguilni helped his squad to earn the gold medal in the team competition at the 1988 World Championships, 1986 Goodwill Games, 1987 World Championships, the 1988 Olympic Games and 1989 World Championships.

Moguilni is best known for his superb pommel horse work. In fact, many say he is the best the world has ever seen on pommel horse.

GYMNASTICS

U.S. NATIONAL TEAM GETS TESTED

At a recent training camp in Indianapolis, Ind., the U.S. women's national team did more than just gymnastics—they underwent a series of tests to evaluate their strength, flexibility, and body composition. The tests were performed at the National Institute for Fitness and Sport, located on the campus of Indiana University-Purdue University in Indianapolis.

Many tests were performed using the most un-



Junior National team member Heidi Hornbeek gets tested.

to-date technology available. A Bosco test, which is a jump-endurance test, measured their leg power and the KriCom machine measured their muscular strength

and endurance. In addition, the Latham Flexometer measured their flexibility, and the hydrostatic weighing, which was done in a big tank of water, measured their body composition—fat free mass versus fat mass.

Why go through all these tests?

Dr. Bill Sands, coordinator of the USCGP Sport Science Committee, said, "The tests are used to diagnose problems and, hopefully, will help in preventing them. Also, the

tests will let us know where the gymnasts are right now.¹⁰

Eventually Dr. Sands would like to compare the gymnasts' data with those of other athletes and non-athletes to form an equation specific for gymnasts.

"Currently the body composition equations are not done specifically for elite gymnasts, who have to be at the lean end of the scale. Therefore, it is hard to know exactly where the gymnasts should be."

The tests will also help to target conditioning programs since the gymnasts will find out exactly where their weaknesses are, such as flexibility in shoulders or strength in legs.

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MOSCOW RHYTHMIC COMPETITION

By Hana Christie

The Soviet International rhythmic gymnastics competition was held on May 4-6 in Moscow. This year, this very popular international competition had a special importance—it was one of the three competitions where the top 17 countries from the last World Championships could compete for the participation at the 1990 World Cup.

AP/WIDE WORLD



Diane Simpson

The date of this competition was the same as the U.S. Rhythmic National Championships. Being aware of the importance of the World Cup qualification, the USGF decided to send our top two gymnasts to Moscow—Diane Simpson and Jennifer Lovell. Maureen

FOUR CONTINENTS

CHRISTY NEUMAN EARNS SILVER MEDAL

If the Four Continents Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships is any indication of the future of U.S. rhythmic gymnastics, the outlook could be very promising. The U.S. gymnasts, particularly the juniors, experienced great success at this international competition held in Tokyo, Japan.

The Four Continents competition, which includes countries from North America, South America, Australia and Asia, is one of the largest international rhythmic competitions. This year the event featured 90 top gymnasts from more than 15 countries.

Two of the youngest competitors in the competition—13-year-old Christy Neuman of Jacksonville, Fla., and 12-year-old Caroline Hunt of Winnetka, Ill.—finished in the top 10, (fifth and sixth). Competing in only her second international competition, Neuman claimed a silver medal in the rope division. Neuman is coached by Marina Davidovich at the United Gymnastics Academy. Another U.S. junior, 14-year-old Naomi Hewitt-Couturier, of New York, N.Y., placed 11th in the all-around.

Leading the American squad in the senior division was Diane Simpson, who finished seventh in the overall standings. Jennifer Lovell was 16th. Simpson, Lovell, Lepore and Hunt are all coached by Irina Vidovets at Illinois Rhythmic.

Hokleirith was the coach and Hana Christie was the judge. There were 23 countries included in the competition.

Simpson did a good job scoring very consistently—rope 9.20, hoop 9.35, ball 9.25 and ribbon 9.20 for a total of 37.0 and 17th place. The top 20 places were scoring for the World Cup.

Lovell did very well in



Christy Neuman

her ball, 9.15, and ribbon, 9.15, however, she had mistakes in her hoop, 9.05, and rope, 8.90, to put her in 32nd place.

The 1989 World Champion, Alexandra Timoshenko from the Soviet Union, took first all-around followed by her teammate, Oksana Skoldina. Third all-around went to Bulgaria's Nelli Atanasova.

CORBEIL- ESSONES RHYTHMIC COMPETITION

By Hana Christie

The 16th international rhythmic competition in Corbeil Essones, France was held on May 11-13. It was the second qualifying meet for the World Cup. Thirty countries competed and, because of the large turnout, the event was termed "A small World Championships."

Seniors Jennifer Lovell and Tracy Lepore competed for the U.S. as well as junior Naomi Hewitt-Couturier. The coach was Irina Vidovets and the judge was Hana Christie.

This was only Jennifer's second year as a senior and the first time when she competed as the

AP/WIDE WORLD



Jennifer Lovell

B R O T H E R C U P

By Helena Greshouse

The 10th annual 1990 Brother Cup Rhythmic competition took place in Tokyo, Japan. There were 19 participating countries and 37 gymnasts altogether. The U.S. was well represented by Diane Simpson and Jennifer Lovell from Illinois Rhythmic in Evanston, IL.

Simpson, coached by Irina Vdovets, did four solid routines without any visible mistakes, expressing the character of her musical accompaniment precisely. However, she scored only 9.30 on each of her routines. Lovell, also coached by Vdovets, had a flawless ball routine, scoring 9.30. She had a small drop on both ribbon and hoop and scored 8.90 and 9.0, respectively, and she scored a 9.15 on her last event, rope.



U.S. Delegation (left to right) Jennifer Lovell, Helena Greshouse, Dr. Andrea Schmid, Pirette Jeannone and Diane Simpson.

Lovell had some very original moves in her exercises.

The Soviet Union's Alexandra Timoshenko and Oksana Skarlina tied for first all-around with a score of 39.20. Bulgaria's Mila Marinova earned the bronze with 39.00.

All four events

were won by Timoshenko, scoring 9.90 on all four events. Her teammate Skarlina tied for first place in hoop and ball and finished second with the ribbon. Marinova placed third on ball and ribbon and would have been third on hoop too, but the judges deducted 2 due to her attire, putting her back to seventh place.

Tracy Laporte paid a high price for a small mistake. Wrong music with her ribbon cost her a whole point for a score of 7.90. Even a respectable perfor-

mance in her other routines—rope 9.15, ball 9.15, hoop 8.80—could not drastically improve her final placement.

The stars of the show

were all from the Soviet Union. Alexandra Timoshenko took first, Oksana Skarlina earned second, and Oksana Kostina placed third in the all-around.

number one gymnast for the U.S. in a competition of this format. She deserves a lot of credit for her achievement. She performed her first three routines—ball, hoop and rope—without any major mistakes and received a score of 9.30 on each of them. Only a small mistake in her ribbon routine cost her a couple of tenths and a score of 9.10. Her total score was 37.0 and she placed 27 in the all-around out of 81 gymnasts in the competition.

Hewitt-Couturier was a newcomer on the international scene. Still a junior, she was at a disadvantage because she had to compete with the ribbon, which is not a junior apparatus this season. In spite of this, she was noticed as a very promising and talented gymnast. Her scores were 9.10 rope, 9.0 hoop, 9.15 ball and 8.70 ribbon for a total of 35.95 and 46th place.

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U.S. MEN RISE TO WORLD CLASS LEVEL



GOODWILL GAMES

The U.S. fielded a young men's team at the 1990 Goodwill Games held in Tacoma, Washington, but a talented and aggressive one despite their age. In fact, so talented that they earned a silver medal in the team competition in front of 9,700 screaming Tacoma Dome fans. Going against the best gymnastics teams in the world, this is the highest finish the U.S. has earned since the 1984 Olympic gold!

The excitement was intense as the eighth-place U.S. team from the 1989 World Championships moved all the way up to second—past the leaders from China, East

Germany, Hungary, Japan and Romania.

For this strong U.S. team showing, one can thank Chris Waller from UCLA, John Roethlisberger from the University of Minnesota and Lance Ringwald and Trent Dumas from Gold Cup Gymnastics. In addition, the Goodwill Games coaching staff, made up of Ed Burch, Yefim Furman and Francis Allen plus the entire U.S. men's program, had a hand in the major triumph of the silver medal team.

According to Robert Cowan, USAG men's program administrator, "Many steps have been taken and many goals have been accomplished in the U.S. men's program. It would appear that the additional

combination and difficulty requirements instituted have been a major asset to our program, as well as the training camps, coordinated by Miss Watanabe. However, we simply cannot rest on this accomplishment, but must move forward even more vigorously and aggressively to reach our goals of medals in 1991 and 1992."

And, after this successful international competition, one can be sure the gears are in motion and the adrenaline is flowing for even more medals in upcoming events.

The only team to surpass the U.S. was the World and Olympic Champions—the Soviet Union! This gold medal team was so outstanding that the 1989

TOP: Trent Dumas, Chris Waller, Lance Ringwald and John Roethlisberger teamed together to claim the silver medal.

RIGHT: Flying high, Lance Ringwald landed the high bar gold medal.

BY LUAN PESZEK



GOODWILL

GAMES

World Champion, Igor Korbuchinsky, failed to make the Soviet squad.

When coach Leonid Arkarev was asked why Korbuchinsky didn't get to compete, he replied, "I have a question for you. Who would you have him replace?"

Coach Arkarev had a good point. After looking over the roster of Valeri Belenki, Valeri Lukin, Valentin Mogulov, and Vitaly Scherbo, there wasn't any arguing with Arkarev—he was right!

After the first rotation, the Soviet Union was in the lead and stayed there throughout the competition. The Soviet Union scored 29.90 on rings followed by China's 28.70 on pommel horse. The U.S. made a good start on vault leading up tied for third with East Germany and Japan.

The Soviet Union and China maintained their first and second place standings after round two and the U.S., on parallel bars, grabbed third all to itself.

The U.S. moved on to its

best event of the competition—high bar. Roethlisberger, up first, rocked his set to score a 9.45 and the scores built from there! Waller, too, had a great set which scored 9.70 followed by Ringnald's routine. Kovacs and all, for a 9.80. The score just kept getting better. Dimas finished it off with his superb routine, including a Kovacs and triple back dismount, for a 9.90.

Coach Burch said, "I think high bar won the silver medal for us. Our high bar team is the best we've ever fielded."

After round three and the U.S.'s outstanding performance on high bar, the rankings changed and the U.S. moved into second with China in third.

The U.S. faltered slightly during floor, their next event. The high score for the U.S. team was Roethlisberger's 9.45. The U.S. maintained their second place, however, only 5 separated the U.S., East Germany, and China. The competition for second place was extremely tight.

Fortunately, the U.S. regrouped on pommel horse, the fifth event, scoring 9.6, 9.7, 9.75 and a 9.90 from Waller.

Also during round five, the East German team, who was competing in their last major international event before unification, was having a hard time on high bar scoring only a 28.40. This event, along with rings, was the downfall for the East German team, who finished second at the 1989 World Championships and ended up fourth at this competition.

The last event for the U.S. was rings and Waller led the way scoring a 9.70 and

securing the silver medal. Waller also led the way in the all-around for the U.S. and he and Ringnald qualified for the all-around finals to be held the following day.

The award ceremony was a touching moment as the U.S. team stood alongside the gold medal winners from the Soviet Union and the bronze medal team from China. East Germany finished fourth followed by Hungary, Japan and Romania.

Coach Burch said, "This finish is so important for us, especially because in 1991 the U.S. will be hosting the World Championships and this gives us a realistic goal in terms of where we stand now, this is a young team and it shows we have lots of kids coming up and setting the pace for 1991 and 1992."

1. Soviet Union	176.50
2. United States	172.55
3. China	172.35
4. East Germany	171.50
5. Hungary	170.75
6. Japan	169.20
7. Romania	169.10

ALL-AROUND FINALS

The all-around competition was comprised of the top 16 gymnasts, with a limit of two per country. The Soviet Union, once again, proved their superiority by placing first and second in the all-around with Vitaly Scherbo's 59.20 and Valeri Belenki's 58.65.

However, the U.S.'s Lance Ringnald and Chris Waller gave the crowd something to cheer about when they placed third and fourth all-around with scores of 58.30 and 57.80. Ringnald, who is a seasoned veteran of international competition, increased his ranking from the 1988 Olympics and the 1989 World Championships where he finished 35th and 29th all-around, respectively. Waller, who was competing in a major com-

In his first major international competition, Chris Waller scored a 9.80 on high bar and placed fourth all-around.

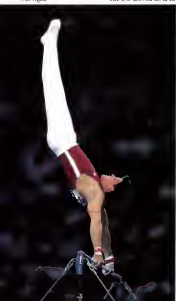


Photo by Mike

petition and on a podium for the first time ever, instantly turned a few heads with his outstanding fourth place finish.

"We were right on the Soviets' tails and we did not let up at all," said Waller, a senior from UCLA. "It's encouraging for Lance and I to do well and I hope the Soviets were worried."

Ringgold, from Gold Cup Gymnastics in Albuquerque, N.M., said, "It was a great competition I did not expect a bronze medal. This is fantastic and came as a surprise. You salute the judges, do what you practice for so long and let it happen."

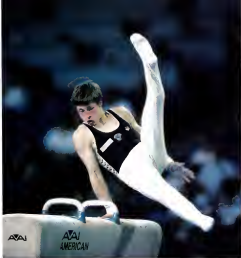
It was an exciting, yet tough competition. Belenki, 20, led during the first two rounds but his 6.60 on vault, for a Kasamatsu full twist, dropped him into second place, where he would stay for the rest of the competition.

The young and talented Scherbo had all the right moves. His scores included 9.85 on floor, 9.90 on pommel horse and rings, 9.95 on vault for his Yurchenko double twist, 9.75 on parallel bars and a 9.85 on high bar.

Not only is Scherbo talented, he's also a bit of a comic. When asked how he felt about his all-around gold medal he chuckled and replied, "Yesterday I was a young man and today I am a man."

Scherbo recently placed fifth all-around at the 1990 European Championships and won floor, vault and high bar. He had a break on parallel bars which cost him a medal in the all-around. He said, "Over the last six weeks I have gained stability and self confidence through practicing."

When asked what he will do to stay on top, Scherbo said, "It's very difficult to make the Soviet National Team. I'll have to work hard in order to make the team again."



Vitali Scherbo, a new face on the international scene, found his way to the winners stand.

Although Scherbo and Belenki had first and second place wrapped up from the beginning, the bronze medal was up for grabs and could have gone to anyone of five gymnasts.

Both byron Krull, 25, of East Germany and China's Li Xiaoshuang, 18, were in the hunt for the bronze medal—that is until Krull fell on high bar and Xiaoshuang fell on rings. Krull placed fifth all-around at the 1989 World Championships and finished fifth at the Goodwill Games. Xiaoshuang is a relatively new face to the international gymnastics scene but did place fourth all-around at the 1990 Moscow News Cup.

Another gymnast battling for the bronze was 18-year-old Linyao Guo also from

China. However, Guo fell on his rings dismount and knocked himself out of contention.

In the end, the bronze medal came down to a contest between the U.S.'s own gymnasts, Ringgold and Waller. Ringgold was consistent throughout with scores of 9.75 on floor, 9.70 on pommel horse, 9.60 on rings, 9.55 on vault, 9.60 on parallel bars and a 9.80 on high bar.

Waller's scores included a 9.40 on floor, 9.60 on pommel horse, 9.75 on rings, 9.65 on parallel bars, 9.80 on high bar and an unfortunate 9.20 on vault, when he was a little short on his layout Cueva.

Hungary's Csaba Pajkoss, 23, earned fifth all-around with 57.65. Pajkoss placed 14th all-around at the

1989 World Championships and sixth at the 1988 Olympics.

Both Guo from China and Krull from East Germany scored 57.50 to tie for sixth place.

Krull commented on reunification and how it will affect his gymnastics by saying, "It is a new time and it is good for both sides. Germany has been separated for 40 years into two different societies so it will take time to develop team spirit which shows unity." He added, "There have been numerous changes but it hasn't really changed a lot. I have dedicated my life to the sport."

The gymnastics performances were at their highest level of difficulty and is

continued on page 34

U.S. WOMEN CHALLENGE THE SOVIETS



GOODWILL GAMES

The powerful team from the Soviet Union may have clinched the women's team title at the 1990 Goodwill Games in Tacoma, Wash., but they certainly didn't dominate the competition. They were challenged by, none other, than the team from the U.S.—a young U.S. team at that!

The U.S. team including Sandy Woolsey from Desert Devils in Scottsdale, Ariz. and Betty Okano, Amy Scherr and Kim Zmeskal from Karolyi's Gymnastics in Houston, Texas, made up the powerful U.S. foursome. And this powerful squad flirted with the gold medal, but, after the Soviets finished their last event, vault, the U.S. team slipped a exercises 2.75 behind the Soviets.

The Soviets, who are the 1989 World Champions and have only been beaten twice (by the Romanians) in two decades, brought their best line-up, including 1989 World Champion Svetlana Bogutskaya, Natalia Kalina, Tatiana Lisienko and Okana Chumantina. The Soviets proved they're still on top but the U.S. is slowly narrowing the gap and giving the Soviets a run for their money.

Coach Bela Karolyi said, "This was the best performance we've had against the Soviets. The U.S. can give a big challenge to the World Champions and we had great team spirit. We'll be even stronger at the 1991 World Championships in Indianapolis. At that time I hope the outcome will be on our side."

After the first rotation, the U.S. women the lead followed

by the Soviet Union and Spain.

Scherr led off for the U.S. on beam with a solid routine and a score of 9.725. Woolsey had a good routine in the vault but had too much energy on her double back dismount and overrotated. This mistake, however, was the U.S.'s last throughout the entire competition.

Sure and steady Zmeskal, went next for a 9.90 followed by 15-year-old Okano, who also scored a 9.90.

While the U.S. had a strong first event, the Soviet Union suffered a disappointment when their best, Bogutskaya, missed a reverse hecht on bars, put moments into the competition, and fell to the ground. All of a sudden the Soviet "machines" didn't look like "machines" at all. It was true—they can make mistakes!

ABOVE: Kim Zmeskal, Amy Scherr, Sandy Woolsey and Betty Okano won the silver medal but gave the Soviets a run for the gold.

RIGHT: Kim Zmeskal powers the pack.

BY LUAN PESZEK

PHOTO BY JEFFREY M. HARRIS



GOODWILL

GAMES

Coch Stormy Eaton said, "It made the evening interesting right down to the final performances."

The bronze medal winners from China started on vault with the high score of 9.70 being awarded to Li Li.

Moving to round two, Scher was again a great leadoff gymnast scoring 9.85 and the scores continued to rise with Woolsey's 9.837, Okino's 9.887 and spunky Zmeskal's 9.937.



Kim Zmeskal danced and flipped her way to a bronze medal on floor.

The audience in the sold out Tacoma Dome were enthralled by Zmeskal's energetic floor routine and even clapped to the music.

"I heard them," said Zmeskal. "The crowd helped a lot."

The Soviet Union was on beam and their first gymnast up, Chusovitina, fell on a round off, layout. However, the next three competitors posted scores of 9.887, 9.90 and 9.937.

China, meanwhile, was on bars and can they ever swing big? Seventeen-year-old Wang Wenping led off with a 9.90 followed by

Zhang Wenjing's 9.825, Xia Zhong's 9.912 and Li's 9.925.

After round two, the Soviets pulled ahead of the U.S. followed by China and Spain.

During round three the U.S. gymnasts all executed Yurchenko full vaults for scores of 9.837 for Scher, 9.80 for Okino, Woolsey scored 9.762 and Zmeskal earned a 9.912.

On floor, the Soviets were scoring big. Fifteen-year-old Lisenko led off the Soviet squad with a 9.875 followed by Kaluzna's 9.887, Boguinskaya's 9.925 and Chusovitina's 9.475, a low score because she put her hands down on her last tumbling pass. All the Soviets routines mounted with

a double layout except Boguinskaya's. Her difficulty is not as great as her teammates, but her style and maturity make up for her lack of difficulty.

The fourth and final round left the U.S. on bars and the Soviet Union on vault. Scher started off the U.S. with a strong lead, scoring 9.80 followed by Zmeskal's 9.837. Okino scored 9.937 and Woolsey finished for the U.S. with a 9.80. The U.S. made a great finish to what was already a phenomenal team showing. Now all they had to do was sit back and wait until the Soviets were done vaulting.

Laenko led off for the Soviet team with a near perfect Yurchenko full vault for a score of 9.962 followed by an identical vault from Kaluzna for another 9.962. Chusovitina threw a foot handspring pike front half for a 9.987, the highest score



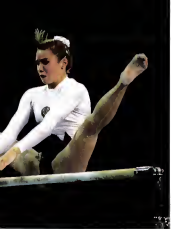
of the event, and Boguinskaya also did a Yurchenko full vault and earned a 9.912.

The Soviets had won the competition 118.759 to the U.S.'s 118.484—a close race! The U.S., who finished fourth at the 1989 World Championships, moved up two spots and defeated China, Japan, Spain, Canada and East Germany. A job well done!

Agina Simpkins, from Illinois Gymnastics Institute and coached by Todd Gardiner, was the U.S. alternate. Simpkins was put into the competition when the Bulgarian gymnast was injured and couldn't compete. Although her scores didn't count, she was able to compete and gain valuable international experience.

The "Cinderella" of the Soviet team, Natalya Kaluzna, upset Boguinskaya to capture the all-around title.





TEAM COMPETITION

1	Soviet Union	118.739
2	United States	118.484
3	China	117.577
4	Japan	116.560
5	Spain	116.433
6	Canada	114.373
7	East Germany	113.988

ALL-AROUND FINALS

After reviewing the all-around standings from the team competition, with Zmeskal in the lead followed by Kalina, Lisenko and Onodi, one knew that the all-around finals were going to be a treat.

Although the reigning World Champion, Svetlana Boguinskaya, didn't make the all-around finals, the Soviet Union pulled Tatiana Lisenko from the competition and allowed Boguinskaya to compete.

The scene was set... a battle between Boguinskaya and Zmeskal. However, the drama ended about 10 minutes into the competition

when Zmeskal missed her Yargat on bars—exactly what happened to Boguinskaya the night before.

But, Boguinskaya didn't run away with the all-around title because, without Zmeskal in the running, Boguinskaya and Kalina battled amongst themselves.

Kalina, 16, started on vault and received a 9.987 for her beautiful Yurchenko full. Boguinskaya, 17, started on bars and redeemed herself from the previous night scoring a 9.950.

Kalina moved to bars, her best event, and scored a 9.937. On bars she earned a deserving 9.912 for her routine loaded with difficulty including a full twisting swingdown, flip flop, layout, layout and full in, back out dismount. But in her floor routine that brought the house down, Kalina scored a perfect 10, the only one of the competition.

Svetlana Boguinskaya, the queen of perfection, fell out of character and off the bars during team competition.

Boguinskaya was, by no means, below standards, but just not good enough to beat out the new star. Her second event, beam, dazzled the judges with her front tuck mount to an immediate loop, flip flop, layout, layout, gainer layout and double tuck dismount for a 9.887. Her floor, the same routine used at the 1989 World Championships, scored a 9.975 followed by a Yurchenko full vault which scored a 9.987.

Although both gymnasts were near-perfect in their performances, Kalina finished with a 39.836 to Boguinskaya's 39.799.

"They were both very well prepared... they were both outstanding," said

coach Alexander Alexandrov of his gold and silver medalist gymnasts.

"I'm very happy with my performances today," said the elegant Boguinskaya. "But the judges determine the outcome."

The beaming gold medal winner said, "This was the first time I got a 10. I wasn't following my scores so I didn't know I was winning until someone told me. Then I was very happy."

The bronze medal went to a very deserving, hard worker from Hungary. Henrietta Onodi. The 18-year-old scored 9.837 for her Yurchenko full vault, 9.862 on bars, 9.762 on beam and a 9.887 on floor. Onodi is the 1990 Hungarian National champion and bronze medalist at the 1990 European Championships.

continued on page 35



Henrietta Onodi captivated the crowd en route to her bronze medal finish.

SCALDINA WINS THE GOLD

GOODWILL GAMES

B Y J A N E X N E R

Spoliane, Wash. was selected as the site of the Rhythmic Gymnastics competition for the 1990 Goodwill Games, and indeed, a better host city could not have been found. The park-like settings of Spokane's main streets, the warmth of its people, and the beauty of the area all combined to make the Goodwill Games a very special event for the eight competing teams from around the world.

Each event held on July 28th. As was expected, the all-around competition was dominated by the Soviet and Bulgarian teams. Oksana Skaldina of the Soviet Union won the gold medal in the all-around with incredibly solid performances in each event. The level of difficulty, combined with superb dance technique in each of Skaldina's routines, was definitely deserving of her first place finish.

The silver medal went to Bulgaria's Mila Marinova.

The 18 athletes from the USA, USSR, Bulgaria, Japan, Italy, Poland, Spain and Hungary spent two days in training to prepare for the all-around competition which was held on Friday, July 27th, with final on

With bright, exciting routines, combined with an amazing athletic style, Mila was one of the crowd favorites. In the past, the Bulgarian gymnasts have been known for their willowy bodies and classical dance styles. Mila Marinova breaks that mold with an energy and endurance that is remarkable to watch.

Third place went to another Soviet gymnast, Oksana Kostina. More traditional in her approach to dance, she enhanced the competition with elegance and virtuosity. These three are champions indeed.

The USA athletes gave a good showing with Diane Simpson from Illinois Rhythmic's going strong for the first three events, but an error during her ball routine, her last event, kept her from finishing in the top places. Simpson's aggressive style and degree of difficulty was the equal of any of the gymnasts competing and, after each perfor-



Jennifer Lovell was the top scoring U.S. Gymnast.



mance, the audience brought her back with their applause.

Jenifer Lovell, just recovering from knee surgery, gave an excellent showing with original and exciting routines. Lovell also trains at Illinois Rhythmnics under Irma Vidovets.

But the audience truly appreciated the technical merit and charming routines of the competition's youngest competitor, Caroline Hunt from the U.S. Hunt, who also trains at Illinois Rhythmnics in Evanston, Ill., had the crowd on their feet for her "Danceal Style" ribbon routine. Robert Stanke's one-of-a-kind piano arrangements enhanced each of the U.S. gymnast's efforts.

Event finals included the top eight competitors from each event with a limit of two per country. Once again, Oksana Skaldina proved her consistency and winning form, taking three gold medals and one silver. Even with Skaldina's outstanding performances, the highlight of the competition was Alexandra Timoshenko's perfect 10 in ribbon finals. Timoshenko had finished fourth in the all-around, making small errors in both the ball and rope events during the first night of competition. The current world champion, Timoshenko, had been plagued by an ankle injury during the days of training before the event and did not appear to be in top form during the competition. But even an injury could not mar the beauty of Timoshenko's expressions and the joy she conveys on the competition floor. Her ribbon routine, choreographed to American rock music, brought the audi-



Caroline Hunt was the youngest competitor at age 12.

ence to their feet for a standing ovation and earned the only 10 of the meet. Her flexibility and technique were without equal and her nickname of "The Golden Gypsy" was definitely appropriate, as was her gold medal.

1	Oksana Skaldina	URS	39.55
2	Mila Marnova	BUL	39.30
3	Oksana Kostina	URS	39.25
4	A. Timoshenko	URS	39.30
5	Neli Antonova	BUL	38.90
6	A. Libera Romo	ESP	38.55
7	Jozsina Bodak	POL	38.25
8	Erka Akayeva	JPN	38.15
9	Ella Bulkevich	POL	38.15
10	Maria Fernandez	ESP	38.10
11	Anita Balogh	HUN	37.95
12	Eniko Pál	HUN	37.80
13	Yukari Kawarata	JPN	37.80
14	Jenifer Lovell	USA	37.70
15	Diane Simpson	USA	37.60
16	Vania Costa	ITA	37.30
17	Inne Gernert	ITA	37.10
18	Caroline Hunt	USA	36.90

The Soviet Union's Oksana Kostina captured the bronze.

Kim Zmeskal proved her champion status as she won the all-around title.

MCDONALD'S CHALLENGE

USA USSR

U.S. GAINING GROUND

BY L U A N P E S Z E K

The U.S. men and women had nothing to lose and everything to gain when they went up against the World, Olympic and, most recently, the Goodwill Games Champions from the Soviet Union. The seventh annual dual competition took place this year at San Jose, Calif. on August 4-5 in front of a sold-out crowd at the San Jose State University's Activity Center. Once again, only days after the Goodwill Games, the U.S. teams challenged the Soviets in a top-notch and high level competition between the two top gymnastics countries in the World! Bela Karolyi said, "This was the highest quality competition ever between the two top teams." And the men felt the same way. Art Shurlock, coach of UCLA, said, "This was the best competition by far." University of Nebraska coach Francis Allen added, "We had four boys at the 58 mark and that's like running a 4 minute mile. It was an excellent showing." For the women, the Soviet Union squeaked past the U.S. - 197.925 to the U.S.'s 197.025. For the men, the Soviet Union overpowered the U.S. scoring 294.475 to 291.625.



WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

Kim Zmeskal won the hearts of many who sat and watched her enroute display of talent as she acquired the all-around title with a 39.875. Zmeskal, who trains at Kasey's Gymnastics with Bela and Martha Karolyi, showed no signs of pain with her injured wrist, as she powered through her routines as sure and steady as water flows through a lake. Zmeskal, 14, scored a perfect 10 on her Yurchenko full vault, followed by a pair of 9.95's on bars and beam and a 9.975 on floor.



Tatiana Grushkova does an amazing flip flop—sideways on beam

"I wasn't conservative at all today," said Kim. "I just went as hard as I could."

Oksana Chusovitina earned the silver medal with her outstanding performances for an all-around score of 39.625. Chusovitina, who is the 1990 Olympic Cup champion, also scored a 10, but her's was on floor. The 4'9" and 81-pound powerhouse tumbled like she had springs in her legs. Her first pass was a double layout flip flop to an unadorned round off three flip

flops double full twist, punch front. Her second pass was a full-in, back-out and she ended with a pike double back. In addition, her dance was flawless! Chusovitina scored a 9.975 on her front handspring pike front with half on vault, a 9.85 on bars and a 9.85 on beam.

Natalia Laschenova didn't even make the competitive squad at the Goodwill Games, yet won the bronze medal on this competition with a score of 39.625. Laschenova, 16, broke her finger on bars, doing a Jaeger, right before the European Championships a few months ago. She's just now getting back into competition. Laschenova is the silver medalist from the 1989 World Championships and may soon be the veteran of the Soviet Squad—that is...if Svetlana Bogumskina returns, like many speculate she will.



Shannon Miller, pictured here at the U.S. Championships, was the second highest finisher for the U.S.



Shannon Miller, 13, was the second highest finisher for the U.S. with an all-around score of 39.35. She had an exceptional competition scoring a 9.80 on her Yurchenko full vault, 9.875 on bars, 9.825 on beam and a 9.85 on floor.

The audience especially liked her powerful tumbling and energetic dance on floor exercises. She began her routine with a full-in, back-out. Her second pass was a round off, whip, whip, flip flop, pike double back and she dismounted with a pike double back.

Her coach, Steve Nurno from Dynamo Gymnastics in Edmond, Okla., said,

LEFT: The powerful Oksana Chusovitina energized the audience with her 10 on floor.

RIGHT: Veteran Valeri Lukin earned the gold in the all-around.

"Shannon's working a double layout but she needed to hit today so she didn't use it."

One surprise of the competition was Natalia Kalinina, the Goodwill Games champion Kalmus scored a 10 on floor, a 9.925 on vault, and a 9.90 on beam, but on bars, she had some problems and had to settle for a 9.35 and eleventh all-around.

Amy Scher, from Karolyi's, had a good competition with her highest score on vault—a 9.90. This powerful 15-year-old has been in and out of competition over the past couple of years due to stress fractures. However, it was recently discovered by her doctor that she has a calcium deficiency and, with treatment, we may see more and more of this young superstar.

Betsy Okina, another Karolyi kid, finished a surprisingly low eighth in the



Chainey Umphrey was the top scorer from the U.S.

all-around due to a fall on her beam dismount and a score of 9.40. However, she scored an incredible 9.95 on the three other events!

Hilary Givich, from Karolyi's and Agnes Simpkins, from Illinois Gymnastics Institute, also competed for the U.S. Givich, 13, scored a 9.05 on bars while Simpkins' high score on floor was a 9.875. Simpkins, 17, is coached by Todd Gardner.

and Igor Korobchinski, 1989 World Champion.

The modest Lukin said, "Any one of us could have won today but I was successful. Our level of competition is such that anyone can win."

Korobchinski, 21, was in fourth place after round five but missed a dismount on high bar and cut his eye, therefore, didn't finish the competition. He was rushed to the hospital and received a few stitches near his eyebrow, but fortunately, is going to be just fine.

Vitali Scherbo, winner of the Goodwill Games, was in the lead after round five but, he too, missed a release and ended up with the bronze medal and a score of 58.80.

Valeri Belenky, who was second place through rounds two through five,

JOHN'S COMPETITION

The Soviet Union's 23-year-old Valeri Lukin took the all-around title with a score of 59.10. Lukin, who was the silver medalist at the 1989 Olympic Games, surpassed the heavily favored Vitali Scherbo, Goodwill Games champion,

WOMEN'S ALL-AROUND

1.	Kim Zmeskal	USA	39.875
2.	Okina Chusovitina	URS	39.675
3.	Natalia Lashchenova	URS	39.625
4.	Tatyana Gutsu	URS	39.500
5.	Tatyana Lysenko	URS	39.400
6.	Shannon Miller	USA	39.350
7.	Amy Scher	USA	39.300
8.	Elizabeth Okina	USA	39.250
9.	Tatyana Greshkova	URS	39.225
10.	Natalia Kalinina	URS	39.175
11.	Hilary Givich	USA	39.100
12.	Agnes Simpkins	USA	38.175

MEN'S ALL-AROUND

1.	Valeri Lukin	URS	59.100
2.	Valeri Belenky	URS	58.875
3.	Vitali Scherbo	URS	58.800
4.	Gyorgyi Marjutin	URS	58.525
5.	Chainey Umphrey	USA	58.500
6.	James Hanks	USA	58.450
7.	Bill Roth	USA	58.425
8.	Dimitri Dogatkin	URS	58.325
9.	Conrad Voosanger	USA	58.025
10.	Mark Warburton	USA	57.725
11.	Scott Kowick	USA	56.775
12.	Igor Korobchinski	URS	55.050



remained in the silver medal playing with a 58.875. Belenky, 20, scored the only 10 of the competition, for men, on his favorite event, pommel horse. He said, "On that apparatus I'm always up there. It's not new but still nice."

Another Soviet, Grigoriy Mayutin, was also up at the top in fourth place with a 58.525. This is Mayutin's first trip to the U.S. He placed seventh all-around at the 1990 Soviet Nationals and was the alternate to the 1989 World Championships team. Mayutin's best event seems to be rings, where he scored 9.825.

The top U.S. gymnast was Chaney Umphrey with an all-around score of 58.50.

"I'm happy I was the top American but I didn't do as good as I could have on three events," said 20-year-old Umphrey.

Chaney was formerly a



Valeri Belenky "pommelled" his way to a silver medal in the all-around.

Gold Cup gymnast but now attends UCLA and is coached by Art Shurlock and Yefim Furman. He scored 9.70 on floor, 9.50 on pommels, 9.875 on rings, 9.70 on vault, 9.90 on parallel bars and a 9.825 on high bar. With these fine scores, Chaney broke the 58 all-around mark for the first time in his career.

Coach Shurlock said, "Now that he's broken the 58 mark, he should be able

to do it easily in the future."

Jarrod Hanks was the second highest finisher for the U.S. with a 58.45 in the all-around. Hanks, from the University of Oklahoma, scored 9.85 on floor, 9.675 on pommel horse, 9.625 on rings, 9.80 on vault, 9.65 on parallel bars and stuck his double twisting, double back dismount from high bar for a 9.85. Jarrod, 21, is a two-time senior national team member and is coached by Greg Buwick.

Dynamic Bill Roth, from Temple, scored a career high of 58.425. Roth's highest scoring events were vault and floor—he scored 9.825 on each of these events. This 20-year-old, coached by Fred Turoff, executes difficult and flashy skills.

Coach Turoff said, "Bill did a great job today. He's well on his way up."

Stanford's Conrad Voor-sanger finished ninth all-

around with a 58.025. Being a World Championships team member, Voor-sanger has international experience and it shows. He scored an impressive 9.90 on parallel bars and would have finished higher in the all-around but missed a release on high bar and scored only a 9.40.

Mark Warburton, from Nebraska, scored 57.725 for tenth all-around. Warburton, the reigning pommel horse champion from the Olympic Festival, is coached by Francis Allen and Jim Howard.

Scott Keswick, 20, is from UCLA and scored 56.775 in the all-around. His favorite event, parallel bars, also was his highest scoring event with a 9.825. Keswick is a two-time national team member and is the 1990 U.S. rings champion.

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NOTATION TABLE

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GOODWILL GAMES

a taste of what to expect at the 1991 World Championships in Indianapolis, Indiana.

1. Vitaly Scherbo URS 99.20
2. Valeri Belenki URS 98.65
3. Lance Ringwald USA 98.20
4. Chris Walker USA 97.80
5. Csaba Fajusz HUN 97.65
6. Linyao Guo CHN 97.50
6. Sylvio Kroll RDA 97.50
8. Miguel Rubio ESP 97.25
9. Yoshikazu N. JPN 97.05
10. Jens Milbradt RDA 96.85
11. Kalefer H. BEL 96.55
12. Szilvester C. HUN 96.40
13. Adrian Sandu ROM 96.15
14. Shiro Gerson JPN 95.80
15. Li Xiaohuang CHN 95.50
16. A. Cauti ROM 95.00

EVENT FINALS

The event finals competition was dominated by the Soviet Union, however, the U.S.'s own Lance Ringwald shared a gold on high bar with the Soviet Union's Vitaly Scherbo and earned the bronze on parallel bars. In addition, the U.S.'s Chris

Walker earned two bronze medals on pommel horse and rings.

Walker, coached by Art Shurlock and Yelam Farnam at UCLA, was asked if he was discouraged with bronze medals. He said, "Discouraged, no, inspired, yes! They did better performances and I admire their gymnastics."

The Soviet Union's Valeri Lukin, 25, earned a 9.90 and the gold medal on floor for his outstanding routine. Lukin, the first gymnast to perform a triple back salto on floor exercise in an international competition, also earned the silver medal on rings.

When asked what goes through his mind on the triple back he said, "I'm worried before performing the skill but during the skill I don't think of anything—just want to land."

On pommel horse, Valentin Moguln from the Soviet Union earned the gold medal with a 9.975. Moguln, who is the 1990 European champion, announced that



The Chinese sent 18-year old Linyao Guo who finished sixth all-around.

the Goodwill Games will be his last competition because he is retiring from the sport. Perhaps he is eager to spend more time with his wife, Olga Tichonova, who was the 1981 World champion.

The rings event was won by the Soviet Union's Valeri Belenki with a 9.925. Belenki also earned the silver medal on pommel horse, the bronze medal on vault, and tied for the gold with China's Linyao Guo on parallel bars with a 9.875.

Another Soviet, Vitaly Scherbo, won the vault event with a score of 9.925. On his second vault, a Yurchenko double twist, he earned a 10—the only one scored for the men at the Goodwill Games. He also tied for the silver medal on floor with

China's Li Xiaohuang and tied for the gold on high bar with Ringwald.

Sylvio Kroll from East Germany also medaled in vault with a 9.775 and second place. Hungary's Csaba Fajusz earned the bronze in high bar with a 9.825.

FOUR

1. Valeri Lukin URS 9.900
2. Vitaly Scherbo URS 9.825
2. Li Xiaohuang CHN 9.825

DOMINANT HOUSE

1. V. Moguln URS 9.975
2. Valeri Belenki URS 9.950
3. Chris Walker USA 9.900

RINGS

1. Valeri Belenki URS 9.925
2. Valeri Lukin URS 9.900
3. Chris Walker USA 9.875

VAULT

1. Vitaly Scherbo URS 9.925
2. Sylvio Kroll RDA 9.775
3. Valeri Belenki URS 9.752

PARALLEL BARS

1. Linyao Guo CHN 9.875
1. Valeri Belenki URS 9.875
3. Lance Ringwald USA 9.800

FREE BARS

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1. Vitaly Scherbo URS 9.900
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MEN'S ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS 1991 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS—INDIANAPOLIS, IN (USA) TEAM SELECTION PROCEDURES

I Qualification—US National Championships

A. The 1991 U.S. National Championships are scheduled for June 7-9, 1991 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

B. All Men's will qualify to the U.S. Nationals from Senior Elite Regional Qualifying Meets on May 18-19, 1991 at sites to be determined. These meets will occur at sites to be approved by the Men's Program Committee. The sites will be announced by December 31, 1990. Exception: Those athletes who score 114.00 combined compulsory and optional in an approved meet using Competition I rules or 112.00 combined compulsory and optional in an approved meet using Competition II rules, other than the Senior Regional Qualifying Meets, are automatically qualified.

These scores of 114.00 or 112.00 will reflect a 60% weighting of the compulsory and a 40% weighting of the optional.

The Men's Program Administrator of the United States Gymnastics Federation will certify those approved meets, such as Big 8, Big 10, Pac 10, NCAA's and others. This certification allows that Competition I rules be used prior to the Regional Meets. Competition II will be used at the Senior Regional Meets, along with the additional combination requirements of the MPC. Also, at least two nationally certified judges will be required per event. More than two clubs/programs must be in attendance for the competition.

All qualification scores will be sent to the Men's Program Administrator.

C. For compulsory in the U.S. Nationals, there will be two sessions. The first squad of 48 will be qualified from the above qualifying procedure. The second squad of 24 will be qualified from Senior Regionals, and would be under age 19 on first day of the

Nationals. If a gymnast is in the top 48 from Regionals, they would have to choose which division to enter. The squad of 48 will be divided into 8 main groups with 6 events being competed concurrently. The squad of 24 will be divided into 6 main groups with 3 events being competed concurrently. Three events will be competed in their entirety (FX, PH, SR) and then competition will begin the remaining three events.

The warm-up period which precedes each session will be open. After three rounds of competition in each session, an additional open warm-up period of fifteen (15) minutes for the 48-man squad and fifteen (15) minutes for the 24-man squad will be provided.

The competitive working order for optionals will be determined by re-ranking the same group, continuing to rotate the order and moving the starting event over one place.

D. All-Around ranking will be determined from the compulsory-optional sessions. The compulsory exercises will be weighted 60% and the optionals 40% to determine team and ranking. There will be an individual event final with 7 athletes per event. Six of these athletes will advance from the combined adjusted total of compulsory and optional per event in the Senior Division. The seventh athlete will be the top individual event finalist from the junior elite division. Finals will use only the score attained in the finals to determine the individual event champions (New Rule).

E. The Senior National Team will be the top 18 from the combined weighted compulsory and optional sessions. This group is known as the Senior National Team. Ties will not be broken. However, for advancement to the next competition, ties will be broken by the higher compulsory all-around score.

F. The Senior Elite Development Team will be comprised of up to 6 (six) athletes in rank order who are under age 21 and finish below 18th place in the weighted All-Around competition. Ties will not be broken. Age is determined as of first date of competition.

G. The Junior Elite Team will be comprised of up to 8 (eight) athletes who compete in the 24-man squad at U.S. Nationals. All-Around ranking as determined by the combined, weighted compulsory and optional competitions will determine this team. Ties will not be broken. Age is determined as of first date of competition.

H. In case of an injury, a gymnast may be petitioned onto the various National Teams, unranked, by the Men's Program Committee.

I. Petitions to the U.S. National Championships will be considered and should be sent to the Men's Program Administrator.

II. Qualification—Olympic Festival

A. The Senior National Team in rank order, beginning at Rank #13, named at the 1991 U.S. National Championships along with the Senior Development Team of 6 and the top 2 Junior Elite Gymnasts will comprise 12 of the 24 athletes to compete in the 1991 U.S. Olympic Festival in Los Angeles, California on July 12-21, 1991.

B. The Junior National Team in rank order as noted at the Spring Team Camp and competition in Colorado Springs from February 10-16, 1991 will comprise the final 12 athletes to compete in the 1991 U.S. Olympic Festival. Ties, if occurring, will be broken by the higher skills value acquired by the gymnast.

C. The two Senior coaches for the Olympic Festival will be assigned in rank

order from the results of the 1991 U.S. National Championships. The two junior coaches for the Olympic Festival will be assigned in rank order from the results of the 1991 Junior Olympic Spring Camp competition.

III. Qualification—World University Games

A. The World University Games Team will be selected in rank order (using optional scores only) beginning at rank #8, from the Senior National Team named at the 1991 U.S. National Championships. Those athletes who are eligible for World University Games competition by virtue of age and academic standing will be considered (FISU Rules).

B. The World University Games Team will consist of five (5) athletes.

C. The World University Games Team will be required to participate in a training camp in Indianapolis prior to their departure for Sheffield, England, site of the 1991 World University Games, to be held July 14-25, 1991. Actual competition dates are July 15-18 for gymnastics.

D. Four (4) athletes will compete in Sheffield with the fifth athlete being the alternate. The alternate will be named by the World University Games Coaches at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the beginning of the competition.

E. An athlete will only be replaced in case of serious injury. No petitions onto the World University Games Team will be accepted.

F. The coaches for the World University Games will be assigned in rank order based on the weighted results of the 1991 U.S. National Championships. One coach plus an assistant deemed "Manager" by the Olympic Committee.

IV. Qualification—Pan American Games Team

A. The weighted, All-Around scores from the U.S. National Championships will determine the Pan American Games Team for the 1991 Pan American Games to be held in Havana, Cuba, August 3-18, 1991.

B. Senior National Team Athletes in

rank order beginning with position number 8 (eight) will comprise the seven members of the Pan American Games Team.

C. The Pan American Games Team will be required to participate in a training camp in Indianapolis prior to their departure to Havana.

D. Six (6) athletes will compete in Havana with the seventh athlete being the alternate. The alternate will be named by the Pan American Games Coaching staff at least 24 hours prior to the beginning of competition.

E. An athlete will only be replaced in case of serious injury. NO petitions onto the Pan American Games Team will be accepted.

F. The coaches for the Pan American Games will be assigned based on rank order of the athletes assigned to the Pan American Games Team. One coach, plus an assistant deemed by the USOC as a "Manager."

V. Team Selection—World Championships Team

A. The weighted All-Around scores from the 1991 U.S. Nationals will be used to determine the World Championships Team. In addition the Pre-Olympic Invitational in Barcelona, training camp observations, any intersquad competitions (if held), and a intersquad competition on August 30-31, prior to official training in Indianapolis, will be used for team line-up. All evaluations of compulsory exercises which will affect team selection will be conducted by the World Championships judges plus others where necessary.

B. Based on the weighted All-Around scores from the U.S. Nationals, seven (7) gymnasts determined by rank order will be the World Championship squad invited to participate in the World Championships. The first three positions from the U.S. National Championships are locked. The remaining three competing gymnasts will be determined by evaluation of the coaches staff utilizing all the criteria outlined in paragraph VA. The seventh man, when selected by the coaches of the World Championships Team, will be the alternate gymnast. This selection will be announced at

least 24 hours prior to the first day of competition at the World Championships. The fourth will be broken by the highest compulsory total from the U.S. Nationals and other compulsory competitors. If there is still a tie, the higher final compulsory score will break the tie.

C. All competitions will be Competition II with the additional combination requirements outlined by the Men's Program Committee, with the exception of the Olympic Festival, which will be Competition I ONLY and no additional MPC combination requirements.

D. Replacement of a squad member will occur only due to a serious injury.

E. Petitions onto the 1991 World Championships Team can occur if the following criteria are met:

1. the petitioned gymnast is clearly in the top three (3) in the U.S.
2. the Men's Program Committee UNANIMOUSLY approves the petition with affected coaches who may be on the committee abstaining from voting.
3. the petition, if accepted, would be acted upon by the Men's Program Committee prior to the World Championships Team intrasquad meet in Indianapolis. Further, the petitioned athlete would be added to the seven members of the training squad. Only SEVEN male athletes will participate in the activities of the World Championships.

F. The coaches for the World Championships will be selected during a meeting of the designated personal coaches of the athletes comprising the 1991 U.S. World Championship Squad. This meeting will take place following the 1991 U.S. National Championships and will decide the head coach and two assistants. Should a decision not be made, the Men's Program Committee will resolve the conflict. The USGF Men's Program Administrator will conduct the meeting.

VI. Qualification

Other Events, including various international invitational, will be assigned to National Team members as outlined by the Men's Program Committee.

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USGF
REPORT

QUALIFICATION PROCEDURES FOR 1991 USGF WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM

I. The top twenty (20) Senior gymnasts of the 1990 USA Championships will comprise the 1991 Senior National Team.

II. The top twelve (12) Junior gymnasts of the 1990 USA Championships will comprise the 1991 Junior National Team.

III. Age Divisions

A. Senior Division

1. All gymnasts born in 1976 or before.
2. Gymnasts born in 1977 may choose to enter the Senior Division at Elite Regionals. Once a gymnast attains the qualifying score to enter the Classic competition as a Senior Elite, the gymnast may not return to the Junior Division.

B. Junior A Division

1. Gymnasts born in 1977, 1978 and 1979 (exception as noted above).

IV. Qualification Scores

A. Senior Division - Competition III
Rules except vault which will be governed by Competition II rules. Compulsory exercises counting as 60% and optional counting as 40%.

B. Junior A Division - Competition II
Rules except vault which will be governed by Competition I rules. Compulsory exercise counting 50% and optional counting 50%.

C. Elite Regionals - Junior A and Senior Division -
1. 72.00 all-around from Junior Olympic Level 10 Regionals or JO Nationals (1990 season)
2. Former Regional or National Elites
3. See Petition

D. Classic Competitions

1. Senior Division
 - a. All gymnasts 72.00 all-around at the 1990 USA Championships
 - b. 72.00 all-around (using Competition III rules) in the current season from a Regional Elite Meet

2. Junior A Division

- a. All Junior A's scoring a 70.40 at 1990 USA Championships
- b. 70.40 all-around (using Competition II rules) achieved in the current season at a Regional Elite Meet
- c. See Petitions

E. USA Championships

1. Senior Division
 - a. The Goodwill Games Team and the World Cup athletes & alternate
 - b. Top 22 Seniors from Classics (6 from American Classic and 16 from U.S. Classic) who are not already qualified
2. Junior Division
 - a. Top 24 Juniors from the Classics (6 from American Classic and 18 from U.S. Classic)

F. Petitions

1. Petitions into Regional, Pre-Elite Qualifying Meets are considered by the Regional Elite Board
2. Petitions into the Pre-Elite Qualifying Meets must be received by the Regional Technical Chairman one (1) month prior to the Pre-Elite event.
3. Petitions into Classic competitions because of injury or illness must be sent to the National Elite Technical Chairman for consideration.
4. Petitions must be received no later than three (3) days after the Regional Elite Meet.
5. Petitions into the USA Championships because of injury, illness or international assignment during the Classic meet will be considered by the National Elite Technical Committee.
6. Petitions must be received no later than three (3) days after the U.S. Classic.

G. Foreign Athlete Qualification

1. Non-citizens may participate for score only up to and including Classic meets.

USGF RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS SELECTION PROCEDURES

I. Qualification to the USGF Class I National Championships

A. Senior Qualification

1. The number of Senior gymnasts qualifying to the National Championships will be limited to thirty (30). The qualifying score will be 42.00 (five events). To ensure that a maximum of 30 Senior gymnasts compete at the Championships, remaining slots beyond the number of gymnasts who qualify with a 42.00 will be filled according to rank order of a gymnast's highest qualifying score, not to go below 41.00. Ties will not be broken.
2. Qualifying scores will be considered from any Regional level competition.

B. Junior Qualification

1. The number of Junior gymnasts qualifying to the National Championships will be limited to thirty (30). The qualifying score will be 41.00 (five events). To ensure that a maximum number of 30 Juniors compete at the Championships, remaining slots beyond the number of gymnasts who qualify with a score of 41.00 will be filled by rank order according to a gymnast's highest qualifying score, not to go below 40.00. Ties will not be broken.
2. Qualifying scores will be considered from any Regional level competition.

C. Qualification From the Children's Division

1. Any gymnast from the Children's Class I competition who meets a 40.00 score qualification, using regulation equipment, will be invited to participate at the National Championships.
2. Qualifying children will not take the place of Junior level gymnasts, and will not be eligible for awards.
3. Qualifying scores will be considered from any Regional Competition.

D. Qualifying Score Verification

1. All meet results from Class I Regional Meets must be sent within 24 hours following the competition to the USGF program administrator by the respective meet directors.

2. The USGF program administrator will determine the names of qualified gymnasts and notify their coaches immediately.

E. Injury Petitions

1. If a gymnast was injured, ill or representing the USA in international competition at the time of the Regional Meet, she may petition the Regional Chairman and the Rhythmic Program Committee to directly enter the National Championships.
2. A copy of the petition is to be sent to the USGF Rhythmic Gymnastics Program Administrator Appendix form "H."

F. Qualifying Exemptions

A gymnast who was a member of the USA Team the previous season, as an individual competitor in FIG Event (i.e. Olympic Games, World Championships, Four Continents Championships) may be admitted to the National Championships without competing at a qualifying meet.

II. Date of the National Championships

- A. The National Championships will be held May 3-5, 1991, at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, CO.

III. Meet Entry Forms

- A. Entry forms for the National Championships will be supplied by the Rhythmic Program Administrator to all Regional Chairmen six weeks prior to the competition.
- B. Entry forms for the National Championships will be supplied by the Regional Chairman to all qualified gymnasts on the date of the Regional Meet.

IV. Meet Format

- A. The National Championships will be a three day competition.

- B. Day one and two will be Preliminary All-Around Competition for Juniors and Seniors.

C. Day three will be Final All-around and Final Event Competition

1. The top 15 seniors and top 12 juniors from the preliminary all-around competition will advance to the final all-around and event competition.
2. The National Team (30 seniors and 8 juniors) will be determined by the combination all-around scores from the preliminary and final all-around competition.
3. Event award winners will be determined based upon the scores from the final competition only (newbie). There will be no separate event finals.

V. Determining the All-Around And Individual Event Champions

- A. All-Around winners are determined by combining scores from the preliminary competition and the final competition.
- B. The Individual Event Champions will be determined from the mark received during the Finals Competition.
- C. The Individual Group Routine Champions will be determined from the score from the Finals Competition.

VI. National Team Selection

- A. USGF Senior National Team will be composed of the top 10 Seniors in the Senior All-Around Competition.
- B. USGF Junior National Team will be comprised of the top 8 Juniors in the Junior All-Around Competition.

BURLY BOOKENDS

UMPHREY/ROTH

DOMINATE '90 U.S. OLYMPIC FESTIVAL

By Chris Lancette

Chasey Umphrey of UCLA is the strong and skintype. He nailed a 9.85 on his sixth event, high bar, to win the all-around championship of the U.S. Olympic Festival in Minneapolis/St. Paul.

Bill Roth of Temple University is as powerful as Umphrey but a bit more vo-

ciferous. He openly predicted he would win at least one individual apparatus gold and he did. In fact he won four gold and a silver.

And so the burly bookends dominated the Festival.

The 5'8", 160 pound Umphrey tied out of the Twin Cities with a total of five medals (all-around team

and rings gold, parallel bars silver and high bar bronze). The 5'6", 167 pound Roth tallied seven medals (gold in floor, individual golds on floor, parallel bars, vault and high bar, and silvers in all-around and on pommel horse).

Umphrey had been as far from the lead as seventh place but had crunched his way back into the gold rush and emerging reputation as he trailed the University of Nebraska's Mark Warburton by .25. As Umphrey prepared to step up to the high bar, he was given the wait signal by ESPN. Peering out from his intense concentration, he "sensed" Warburton's fall on his last floor pass.

"I didn't actually see him fall," Umphrey explained after the meet.

Umphrey got (5) score then he needed to tie Warburton (who settled for the bronze) but waiting only made the 19-year-old's task more nerve-wracking.

EVENT FINALS

During event finals, Roth opened with a 9.75 on floor (he has first gold of the evening, Josh Stenford Gymnastic Factory in Houston and Dennis Harrison from Calvey's Gymnastics Training Center in Omaha took second and third, respectively).

"After floor, I was psyched for horse," Roth said. He scored a 9.60 and took silver behind Warburton's 9.65.

Umphrey hit a 9.80 on rings for tie gold while Warburton and Keswick from UCLA tied for the silver with 9.70's.

Roth easily won vault, scoring a 9.65 on his Kasey-Matko. Robby Kessler from Crenshaw Athletic Club in Austin won the silver with a layout Cuervo. Harrison earned the bronze.

The parallel bars were no match for Roth either. He used them as easily as the Chinese use chop sticks. He won the apparatus with a 9.80. Warburton, Umphrey, Keswick and Conrad

The talk in the parking lot outside the arena of the U.S. Olympic Festival was that "she" was the show all 9,217 fans paid to see. And when "she" left wearing the gold medal, the fans felt as if they had touched that symbol of greatness themselves.



Molly Shallen was awarded the gold medal on bars.

Brandy Johnson just has that kind of effect on people.

"It seems that every meet she's in she's a like a magnet that attracts people," said coach Kevin Brown, who watched his star pupil post a golden, Festival-record

39.025 and help their South squad win the team competition. "She has that all-American look that draws people.

Johnson's first performance was the balance beam. She sailed through her routine with ease until the dismount. As she was throwing her double back dismount, she missed her right foot but still propelled herself through both flips. She landed short and a shiny red nose and a 9.40 to show for it.

"I usually don't miss my foot on the dismount," she said with a quizzical, confused facial expression. "It was kind of a fluke thing."

Johnson flipped over to floor and after two full-in, back-outs and a double back, she landed a 9.85.

She was in second place at the half-way mark and headed to vault on rotation three. She threw a Yurchenko full and landed a 9.95 to take over first place. Johnson then clinched the gold with a 9.825 on bars.

BRANDY JOHNSON

ALL-AMERICAN KID

WINS '90 U.S. OLYMPIC FESTIVAL

By Chris Lancette

Johnson wasn't the only gymnastics attraction at the Twin Cities. A plethora of athletes divined up the medals.

Teammate Molly Shallen, a 5'1", 90-pound 13-year-old, scored a 38.625 and took the silver medal. She seemed a taller, more slender version of her Olympic teammate but with her scores, she made a name for herself.

"This was really Molly's meet," Brown said of the junior national team member. "She was flawless in her preparation for the meet and she did a great job."

She scored a 9.725 on vault, 9.850 on bars, 9.675 on beam and a 9.575 on floor.

"I just wanted to hit all my routines and be in the top three," said the elated,

Voonsanger from Stanford, tied for the silver with 9.65's.

The final score for Roth's underdog-beats-the-odds film was, of course, high bar. After gliding through the Gaylord II he botched two days earlier, and again sticking the triple back dismount, Roth carded a 9.90. Voonsanger and Umphrey earned the silver and bronze medals, respectively.

TEAM COMPETITION

The East team scored a 278.65 to win the team competition. The team consisted of Roth, Voonsanger, Hironaka, Scott Barnes of the University of Nebraska, Jason Chiriac of the Nebraska School of Gymnastics and Rob Hanson of the University of Minnesota. The squad was coached by Lance King of the Crenshaw Athletic Club.

Festival all-around winners L-R were: Mark Warburton, Chaiuey Umphrey & Bill Roth.



Brandy Johnson posted a Festival record—39.825.



10-year veteran.

Junior team member Anne Woynerowska from North Stars Gymnastics in Fairfield, N.J. turned in the best meet of her career and won the bronze medal in the all-around. The eighth grader earned a 38.225 including a 9.90 vault, 9.725 beam and 9.60 bars. Unfortunately for her, she received a 9.0 on floor in the third rotation before hitting a great beam routine.

The 12-year-old electrifying Lanius Fontaine, 4'4", 67 pounds, was also a key player in the competition, in fact, she was in the lead after the third rotation but suffered two falls on her last event, floor, and ended up in ninth place overall.

EVENT FINALS

In the event finals, Johnson continued her vaulting dominance with a 9.90 and a gold medal. Woynerowska and Christine Tonny of Parkettes tied for the silver

with 9.80's.

Shawen landed her double twisting dismount and carded a 9.800 to win the bars. Fontaine, from American Academy of Gymnastics in Wheeling, Ill., won the silver medal with a 9.80. Liz Crandall of Desert Devils in Tempe, Ariz. earned the bronze with a 9.75.

Fontaine surprised everyone in the house with a 9.90 on beam and the gold medal. She hammed it up for the television cameras and sassed afterwards with a little-girl giggle, "I was real excited."

Tracey Cole of Spirit of America in Edmond, Okla. and Jenny Iliker of Gymnastics Country USA in Tulsa, Okla. took second and third with a 9.775 and 9.70, respectively.

Christine Tonny won the gold in the floor exercise with a 9.70. Hillary Anderson of New England Gymnastics scored a 9.45 for the

continued on page 42

SIMPSON & THE JUNIORS STEAL THE SHOW

'90 U.S. OLYMPIC FESTIVAL

By Marie Roethlisberger

The 1990 U.S. Olympic Festival was not just another competition. This meet served as part of the trials for the Four Continents Cup.

Except for Jennifer Lovell, who was recovering from knee surgery and preparing for the Goodwill Games, the complete national team was present in Minneapolis/St. Paul to perform in front of a near record crowd. The crowd included

an enthusiastic men's artistic gymnastics team.

Diane Simpson successfully defended her Festival title with great consistency. She even improved her scores on every routine from the day before. Simpson was very pleased with her performance, worthy of a total all-around score of 74.55, more than two points ahead of her closest competitor.

Twelve-year-old Caroline Hunt, who, along with



Diane Simpson took top honors at the '90 U.S. Olympic Festival.

Simpson, is coached by Inna Vidvorova in Illinois, finished places with Naam Hewitt-Couturier from the first day to take the silver medal with 72.45 points. Hunt displayed difficult routines with great natural ability for such a young performer. Hunt scored a half point higher the second day.

Hewitt-Couturier, 13, was right on Hunt's heels and performed some difficult catches to claim the bronze medal with 72.25 points.

Christy Neuman, 15, barely missed a medal by .05 and settled for fourth place. She scored more than half a point better than the first day and really showed a style all her own with precise multiple turns and balances.

Tracey Leppan, the 1990 National Champion, came through for a strong fifth place showing with 71.40 points.

Fourteen-year-old Bianca Segitto was consistent for sixth place and a score of 71.25.

Making a comeback after placing fifth the first day was Kristi Ak. She moved up to seventh place with 71.20 points.

In eighth place to claim the

last senior spot on the Four Continents Cup team was 14-year-old Jennifer Leach, who was third at the U.S. National Championships.

Juniors Franca Abbottello and Heather Lovell, both 13-years-old, round out the top ten.

BRANDY JOHNSON

continued from page 41

silver and Kristin McDermott of Parkettes earned the bronze with a 9.625.

TEAM COMPETITION

The Southsides finished with a 190.450, ahead of the North's 189.075. South team members were Johnson, Shawen, Beth Wyner of Sunrise Gymnastics in Sylva, Ohio, Summer Reed of Alps Gymnastics in Reno, Nev., Amanda Mitchell of Boston's Gymnastics in Altamonte Springs, Fla., and Cara Lepper of Cals Gymnastics in Southington, Conn.

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EVENT SCHEDULE

Dates & Events Subject to Change or Cancellation
Prepared by: Allison Melagone, Director of Special Events

NOVEMBER

3-4	American Classic Nationals (M)	Phoenix, AZ
11-20	Jr. National Team Training & Training Camp (M)	Colorado Springs, CO
16-17	Canada (M)	Ortise, Italy
18-21	Chuncho Cup/Tokyo Cup (M/W)	Nagoya, Japan
29-Dec 2	Jr. B Training Camp (W)	Indianapolis, IN
30-Dec 1	Winter Nationals (M)	Colorado Springs
29-Dec 3	Jacqueline Bionet / Taroni Bionet (M/W)	Brazzaville, Spain
TBA	Brazil Cup (M/W)	Brasilia

DECEMBER

1	Swiss Cup (M/W)	Zurich, Switzerland
5	Athletik Gander Meeting (M/W)	Switzerland
7-9	DTE Fokel Cup (M/W)	Stuttgart, FRG

FEBRUARY

22-23	McDonald's American Cup (M/W)	Orlando, FL
22-23	Rhythmic National Challenge	Colorado Springs, CO
26	McDonald's Int'l Mixed Pairs (M/W)	Atlanta, GA
TBA	Jr. National Team Camp (M)	Colorado Springs, CO

MARCH

15-17	U.S. Challenge (M/W)	Albany, NY
TBA	Moscow News (M/W)	Moscow
TBA	Jr. Pacific Alliance Championships (M/W)	Canada

APRIL

5-8	*McDonald's Challenge: USA/USRR	*Soviet Union
6	NCAA Regional Championships (M/W)	TBA
7	First Elite Regional (W)	TBA
11-12	USCF Division II/III Collegiate Championships	Davis, CA
18-20	NCAA's Championships (M)	TBA
19-20	NCAA's Championships (W)	Tuscaloosa, AL
27	Second Elite Regional (W)	TBA
27-28	JO Level 9 East/West Championships	TBA

MAY

3-5	JO National Championships (M)	TBA
3-5	U.S. Rhythmic National Championships (B)	Colorado Springs, CO
4-5	JO National Championships - JR (W)	TBA
11	Cup of Champions (M/W)	Fairfax, VA
11-12	JO National Championships - SR (W)	TBA
18	U.S. Classic Nationals (W)	Huntington Beach, CA
18-19	St. Regional (M)	various sites

JUNE

7-8	U.S. Championships (M/W)	Cincinnati, OH
22-23	United States Olympic Cup (M/W)	TBA
28-30	Education Workshop	Colorado Springs, CO

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COMPETITIONS

1991 GEORGIA CLASSIC OPEN INVITATIONAL, January 12, 1991, Gaines, Georgia. Hosted by Rockdale Gymnastics Team Association. Open Dives & for Artistic coaches for the Rockdale Illinois Open Optional Invitational featuring 40 All-Stars and 20 four man teams. For information regarding this meet please call Drew Davis 800-453-6239 or Meet Director, Kathleen Bray 804-460-9201

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SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

Permanent former gymnast, Nicholas Melgakis, is interested in job opportunity in the U.S. Nicholas was a member of Soviet Gymnastics Team for years and a successful participant in the 1980 Olympic Games. He has accumulated a great deal of experience in coaching both male and female gymnasts, including Nollie Kim, Constant Vladimirov, Schweinwieser at 033222-9974 if you're interested in Nicholas

Stefano Timar from Germany is seeking employment in the U.S. as a girls' gymnastics coach. She placed in the top 10 all-around at the 1980 World Championships and was the all-around champion at the German Championships in 1988. She has two years coaching experience. Contact Stefanie at Nordstrasse 20, D-8000 Garmisch 1, Germany, or call 011-49-511-898-133.

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Jan./Feb.	November 15
Mar./Apr.	December 15
May/June	March 15
Jul./Aug.	May 15
Sep./Oct.	July 15
Nov./Dec.	September 15

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Each issue of USA Gymnastics, beginning with the January/February 1991, will feature several individuals who have excelled in gymnastics, either by competing, coaching or some other way.

Please include a recent photograph, quality black and white or color, showing only the candidate (School or class photo would be perfect.)

Here's an example...



Christine Tonry
Morganville, N.J.

Christine, 15, trains at Parkettes and won first place on floor at the 1990 U.S. Olympic Festival. In her first year to compete elite, she placed 14th all-around at the U.S. Championships with a total compulsory/optional score of 74.880.



Jason Whitfield
Westland, Michigan

Jason, 17, finished fifth all-around at the U.S. National Championships in the junior division, with a combined compulsory/optional score of 102.98. The two-time junior national team member trains at Genesee Valley Gymnastics.

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The membership for gymnasts wishing to compete in USGF sanctioned competitions leading up to the USA National Team and the Olympic Team. The multi-level skill development programs of the USGF offer many exciting competitions in which Athlete members may take part.



Membership includes:

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Membership includes:

- Rules & Guidelines book
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